

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2466

USMISSION GENEVA FOR AMB SCALI

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GQ, UN, RQ,

SUBJECT: UN COMMITTEE OF 24 VISITING MISSION TO US
TERRITORY

SUMMARY: COMMITTEE OF 24 HAS ONCE AGAIN REQUESTED US TO INVITE
VISITING MISSION TO US TERRITORY (SUCH AS GUAM, AMERICAN SAMOA
OR VIRGIN ISLANDS) ON WHICH WE REPORT ANNUALLY TO COMMITTEE
UNDER ARTICLE 73 OF UN CHARTER. WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD REPLY
FAVORABLY TO COMMITTEE THIS YEAR SINCE NEW APPROACH BY US ON
VISITING MISSIONS COULD BE DECISIVE FACTOR IN STIFFENING
COMMITTEE RESISTANCE TO CUBAN EFFORT TO HAVE PUERTO RICO
RESOTRED TO COMMITTEE'S LIST OF NON SELF- GOVERNING TERRITORIES.
COMMITTEE HIGHLY UNLIKELY TO PROVOKE US DISPLEASURE OVER PUERTO
RICAN ISSUE SO LONG AS IT FEELS THAT IT HAS MORE TO GAIN FROM
US ON VISITION MISSION QUESTION.

WE BELIEVE GUAM WOULD BE MOST SUITABLE
TERRITORY TO RECEIVE VISITION MISSION SINCE WE ASSUME, ON
BASIS CONG. WON PAT'S LETTER TO COMMITTEE LAST YEAR, THAT
GUAM GOVERNOR AND OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS ARE READY AND
WILLING TO RECEIVING SUCH MISSION. ACTION REQUESTED; WE
RECOMMEND THAT WE BE AUTHORIZED TO RESPOND TO COMMITTEE OF
24 CHAIRMAN SALIM BY EARLY AUGUST THAT US AGREES IN PRINCIPLE TO
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COMMITTEE MISSION'S VISIT TO GUAM IN NEAR FUTURE, SUBJECT TO
ABILITY OF USUN IN COMMITTEE TO WORK OUT MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY
DETAILS WITH REGARD TO TIMING. IF REPLY IS TO HAVE DESIRED
EFFECT OF FORESTALLING CUBAN PRESSURES ON COMMITTEE TO TAKE

ACTION ON PUERTO RICO, WE NEED TO REACH SALIM AS SOON IN AUGUST AS POSSIBLE. END SUMMARY.

1. AT RECENT MEETING WITH AMB. SCALI, TANZANIAN AMB. SALIM, IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN UN COMMITTEE OF 24 (CECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE) MADE ANNUAL PITCH FOR USG INVITATION TO COMMITTEE TO SEND VISITING MISSION TO US TERRITORY . AMB. SALIM HOPED US WOULD BE GUIDED BY BENEFICIAL RESULTS OF COMMITTEE' S MISSION LAST YEAR TO PACIFIC ISLANDS TO NIUE AND TOKELAU. ACCORDING TO SALIM, NIUE MISSION PROVIDED COMMITTEE WITH MUCH MORE REALISTIC VIEW OF FUTURE POLITICAL ALTERNATIVES FOR SMALL TERRITORIES. NIUE MISSION ALSO AIDED ADMINISTERING POWER, NEW ZEALAND, AS WELL BY GENERATING CONSIDERABLE PRAISE FOR ITS COOPERATION WITH COMMITTEE IN UNGA FOURTH COMMITTEE DEBATE LAST FALL. AMB SALIM REQUESTED REPLY FROM US BY MID- AUGUST AT LATEST SO AS TO MEET PUBLISHERS DEADLINE FOR COMMITTEES ANNUAL REPORT TO UNGA.

2. WITH EXPLICIT CONCURRENCE OF AMB SCALI JUST PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR EUROPE, WE BELIEVE AMB SALIM S REQUEST NOW MERITS SERIOUS AND POSITIVE CONSIDERATION. SEVERAL NEW FACTORS HERE APPEAR TO MAKE IT IN OUR INTEREST TO COOPERATE WITH COMMITTEE IN THIS DOMAIN. IN FIRST PLACE, COMMITTEE MODERATES SUCH AS SWEDEN, AUSTRALIA, FIJI, IRAN AND ETHIOPIA HAVE BEEN URGING US TO APPROVE VISITING MISSION' S FINDINGS MOST LIKELY TO STRENGTHEN THEIR ARGUMENT THAT COMMITTEE MUST RECOGNIZE POLITICAL STATUS ALTERNATIVES OTHER THAN INDEPENDENCE FOR SMALL PACIFIC AND CARIBBEAN TERRITORIES. FURTHERMORE, COMMITTEE ITSELF, BUOYED BY SUCCESS OF NIUE- TOKELAU MISSION AND RESULTANT FAVORABLE PUBLICITY FOR COMMITTEE, NOW DISPOSED TO CONDUCT FUTURE MISSIONS IN SIMILARLY SERIOUS VEIN SO AS TO ENCOURAGE OTHER NATIONS SUCH AS UK, FRANCE AND US TO COOPERATE WITH IT.

3. IN TERMS OF OUR IMMEDIATE INTEREST, MOST COMPELLING ARGUMENT FOR TAKING NEW TACK ON VISITING MISSIONS WITH COMMITTEE INS ISSUE OF PUERTO RICO. WE WISH TO SEE COMMITTEE BURY CUBAN- INSPIRED EFFORT TO RESTORE PUERTO RICO TO LIST OF NO SELF- GOVERNING TERRITORIES. FAVORABLE AND TIMELY REPLY TO SALIM, EVEN IF
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CONDITIONAL AND COUCHED TO GENERALITIES, COULD BE DECISIVE FACTOR THIS YEAR IN STIFFENING COMMITTEE RESISTANCE TO CUBAN PRESSURE. COMMITTEE HIGHLY UNLIKELY TO PROVOKE US DISPLEASURE OVER PR SO LONG AS IT BELIEVES IT HAS MORE TO GAIN FROM DISPATCHING MISSION TO US TERRITORY WHERE WE RECOGNIZE COMMITTEE' S JURISDICTION (UNDER ARTICLE 73 OF CHARTER).

4. WE REALIZE OF COURSE THAT MISSION SHOULD PROCEED TO US TERRITORY ONLY TO COMPLETE COOPERATION OF DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, GOVERNOR AND OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS CAN BE ASSURED AND ONLY IF TERRITORY ITSELF HAS ACHIEVED SUFFICIENTLY MATURE LEVEL OF POLITICAL ADVANCEMENT. WITH THESE CONSIDERATIONS IN MIND WE BELIEVE GUAM WOULD MOST SUITABLE TERRITORY TO RECEIVE COMMITTEE

MISSION. GUAM DELEGATE TO US CONGRESS WON PAT LAST YEAR WROTE TO COMMITTEE INDICATING GUAMANIAN WOULD WELCOME FACT-FINDING MISSION AND WILL BE TESTIFYING BEFORE COMMITTEE AS PETITIONER NEXT WEEK. GUAMANIAN NOW ELECT THEIR OWN TOP OFFICIALS AND ARE ACTIVELY DISCUSSING FUTURE RELATIONSHIP WITH US. POLITICAL PARTIES ON GUAM ARE WELL DEVELOPED AND WILL BE COMPETING FOR GOVERNORSHIP IN FALL OF 1974. COMMITTEE WILL BE SENDING ANOTHER MISSION TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND OTHER PACIFIC TERRITORIES SOME TIME IN 1974 AND COULD EASILY ADD GUAM TO ITINERARY.

5. MISOFF HAS DISCUSSED PLANNING OF NIUE- TOKELAU MISSION IN DETAIL WITH NEW ZEALAND MISOFFS HERE. NEW ZEALANDERS SAY COMPOSITION OF MISSION WAS KEY TO ITS SUCCESS AND NZ PLAYED KEY BEHIND SCENE ROLE IN ENGINEERING ITS MAKEUP. (IT WAS LED BY SALIM, WHOSE CREDENTIALS WITH HARD LINE ANTI- COLONIALISTS HERE ARE IMPECCABLE, AND CONTAINED REPS FROM SWEDEN AND TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.) IF US WERE TO AGREE TO MISSION TO GUAM WE WOULD EXPECT TO EXERT SIMILAR INFLUENCE OVER MISSIONS COMPOSITION AND COULD COUNT ON EXPERT ADVICE ON SYMPATHETIC COMMITTEE SECRETARY TANAKA (A JAPANESE NATIONAL WHO HAS BEEN OF INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE OVER YEARS). ACTUAL PROGRAM OF MISSION (INCLUDING ITS TIMING AND DURATION) IS, BY TACIT UNDERSTANDING WITH COMMITTEE, NORMALLY LEFT WHOLLY IN HANDS OF ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY.

6. ACTION REQUESTD: SINCE SALIM IS LIKELY TO BE REPLACED AS CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE NEXT JANUARY, WE WILL HAVE TO NEGOTIATE DETAILS OF AN EVENTUAL MISSION WITH HIS SUCCESSOR. WE THEREFORE
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RECOMMEND THAT WE BE AUTHORIZED TO RESPOND TO SALIM THAT US AGREES IN PRINCIPLE TO COMMITTEE MISSION TO GUAM IN NEAR FUTURE, SUBJECT TO ABILITY OF USUN AND COMMITTEE TO WORK OUT MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY DETAILS WITH REGARD TO TIMING . IF REPLY IS TO HAVE DESIRED EFFECT OF FORESTALLING CUBAN PRESSURES ON COMMITTEE TO TAKE ACTION ON PUERTOR RICO, WE NEED TO REACH SALIM AS SOON IN AUGUST AS POSSIBLE.

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